

## MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

Lansing, Michigan

November 19, 2008

---

Pursuant to Section 31 of Act 327 of the Public Acts of 1945, the Commissioners of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC), created by said act, met in the Aeronautics Building, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, Michigan 48906 on Wednesday, November 19, 2008, commencing at the hour of approximately 10:00 a.m.

### Members Present

Sidney Adams, Jr., Chair  
Terry Everman, Vice Commissioner  
James Collins, Commissioner  
Leon Hank, Designee – MDOT  
Daniel Atkinson, Designee – MSP  
Dennis Fedewa, Designee – MDNR  
David Brickie, Legal Counsel  
Rob Abent, MAC Commission Director

### Members Absent

J. William Prochazka, Commissioner  
Robert Johnston, Designee - DMVA

### Staff Present

Lorraine White, Executive Division  
Leanne Hengesbach, Aviation Services  
Kelly Crannell, Airports Division  
Rick Hammond, Airports Division  
Gerry Edwards, Aviation Services  
Pauline Misjak, Aviation Services  
Barbara Burris, Airports Division  
Betsy Steudle, Airports Division  
Matt Brinker, Aviation Services  
Steve Schultz, Aviation Services  
Tom Smith, Aviation Services  
John Orban, Aviation Services  
Linn Smith, Airports Division

### Also Present

Susy Heintz Avery, Wayne County A.A.  
Bill Ross, Brooks Field, Marshall  
Jon Bayless, Abrams Municipal Airport,  
Grand Ledge  
Ron Engel, Mead & Hunt

A list of all others present is attached to the official minutes.

## I. OPENING REMARKS

The November 19, 2009, Aeronautics Commission meeting was called to order by the Chair, Sidney Adams, Jr., at 10:02 a.m. He introduced himself as the new Chair of the



Commission; he took a roll call, the commissioners introduced themselves. The Chair noted that Mr. Prochazka and Mr. Johnston were absent.

The Chair reminded all guests to sign in.

## II. COMMISSION BUSINESS

### A. Minutes of the September 17, 2008 Meeting

The Chair entertained a motion to approved Exhibit A, the minutes of the MAC meeting held September 17, 2008, pending any corrections or change. Moved by Commissioner Everman and supported by Commissioner Hank to approve the minutes as written. By a unanimous voice vote the motion carried.

The Chair mentioned that at the September 17 meeting, a motion was made to break tradition and to award a 3<sup>rd</sup> MAC Award of Excellence, to be given to Barb Burris for her 13 years of service to the Commission. Ms. Burris was asked to join them at the podium. Commission Director Abent read the inscription on the plaque:

Michigan Aeronautics Commission Award of Excellence presented to  
Barbara Burris in recognition for your long-term expert and enthusiastic  
service to the Michigan Aeronautics Commission. We thank you for your  
commitment and extraordinary efforts.

### B. Federal/State Local Projects

The chair called Betsy Steudle, Engineering Manager in the Airports Division, to present the airport grants.

Mr. Abent noted that Dave Baker is the usual person to present the grants, however he is out due to illness.

Betsy Steudle discussed the 12 projects for funding approval.

Baraga Airport, Baraga County  
W. K. Kellogg Airport, Battle Creek  
James Clement Airport, Bay City  
Tuscola Area Airport, Caro  
Roscommon County Airport, Houghton Lake  
DuPont-Lapeer Airport, Lapeer  
Manistee County-Blacker Airport, Manistee  
Brooks Field, Marshall  
Oscoda County Airport, Mio



Mt. Pleasant Municipal Airport, Mt. Pleasant  
Romeo State Airport, Romeo  
South Haven Regional Airport, South Haven

As no questions were raised, the Chair entertained a motion for approval of the 12 projects presented by Ms. Steudle. Moved by Commissioner Hank and supported by Commissioner Collins to approve the 12 projects. By a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

C. Airport Approach Plan – St. Charles Airport

The Chair called on Linn Smith, Tall Structure Permits/CAD Coordinator, Airports Division, to give a report on the Airport Approach Plan for Oakwood Field in St. Charles, Michigan.

Mr. Smith gave an in-depth report for the plan. A copy of the plan was included in the meeting notebooks. He asked the commission for approval of the airport approach plan.

There were no questions asked on the plan. The Chair entertained a motion to approve the Airport Approach Plan for the St. Charles Airport, as presented. Moved by Commissioner Atkinson and supported by Commissioner Collins to approve the plan. By a unanimous voice vote the motion carried.

D. Meeting schedule for 2009

The Chair presented the amended 2009 meeting schedule. Five meetings will be held in Lansing; the September 16, 2009, meeting will be in Gaylord, Michigan. The chair entertained a motion to approve the amended schedule for 2009. Moved by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Everman to approve the amended meeting schedule for 2009 meetings. By a unanimous voice vote the motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chair asked the audience if anyone would like to make a public comment.

Bill Ross, Marshall Brooks Field, (along with Mike Hindenach, Economic Development Manager for the City of Marshall) thanked the Commission for approval of the transferred funds. He stated the details on their improvements.

There was no further public comment.



#### IV. REPORTS

A. Commission Director Abent indicated there are no supplemental transfers.

B. “Transportation Funding Crisis”

Director Abent called Commissioner Hank to the podium; he will be giving this report on behalf of MDOT Director Kirk Steudle. Commissioner Hank mentioned that this same presentation will be given around the state to inform residents of the transportation crisis around the state. Even though this particular report deals mainly with roads and bridges, some aeronautics information will be given.

Commissioner Hank gave a detailed report on the transportation funding crisis issue.

Commissioner Hank also mentioned the Transportation Funding Task Force (TF2) report, copies were given to the Commissioners. He mentioned some names that were involved with this effort. He also stated that Director Abent will go into further detail on TF2 during his report. He entertained questions on the transportation funding crisis. Commissioner Fedewa posed a question of changing distribution formula for funding. He suggested the possibility of an ad hoc committee to assist.

There were no further questions. The Chair thanked Commissioner Hank for his report.

A. MAC Director’s Report.

Commission Director Abent was called to the podium to give his director’s report. He welcomed everyone and thanked the Commission. He also welcomed Chairman Adams back to an unprecedented third term of chair, and thanked Commissioner Everman for agreeing to serve as vice chair.

He mentioned the TF2 final report; all commissioners were given a copy of the report. He summarized the recommendations. He stressed that the recommendations were options for consideration and is hopeful and confident that we will see some enhancements in the next year. The next steps for the report were also discussed.

Director Abent next gave an update on the budget. Our total expenditures, across the board, are 9.4% below appropriated funds and actual revenues are 9.6% below prior levels. For 2009, we will continue to control costs and monitor revenue throughout the year. He presented a slide that compared the aviation fuel tax revenue for past 10 years.



The capitol outlay funding was mentioned; total funds of \$124 million, which represents 193 separate grants at 90 airports since June, 2008.

The Aeronautics building update was mentioned; a new conference room was created and final enhancements will be done soon. All work was within budget and on time.

Commission Director Abent introduced 2 new staff; both are Aviation Electronics Technicians, Mike Soper and Tom Smith. He mentioned that Mike was working in the field, but Tom was present. Director Abent welcomed Tom to the staff.

The Chair mentioned the next meeting will be Wednesday, January. 28, 10:00 a.m., in Lansing.

For clarification, Rob mentioned the 19 cent fuel tax, noted in Commissioner Hank's presentation, was on surface vehicles; the aviation fuel tax is 3 cents.

The November 19, 2008 meeting of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission concluded at approximately 10:52 a.m.

---

Director

---

Chairman

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

